

SENATE—Wednesday May 19, 1999

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable MIKE CRAPO, a Senator from the State of Idaho.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

Loving Father, as we begin this day we are very aware of a stirring in our minds and a longing in our hearts to renew our relationship with You. We have learned that this is a sure sign that You are urging us to come to You in prayer long before we call on You. You have created the desire to know, love, and serve You. The feeling of emptiness inside alerts us to our hunger and thirst for a right relationship with You. It is a great encouragement to realize that our longing for truth, knowledge, insight, and guidance is a response to Your desire to give us exactly what we need for each challenge or opportunity. We trade in our old habit of self-reliance for Your supernatural strength and superlative wisdom. It is a joy to be reminded that this is Your Nation. You are waiting to bless us and have specific answers to our needs prepared to give us as we listen to You in prayer all through this day. We place our trust in You. Amen.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

The legislative assistant read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, May 19, 1999

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, section 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable MICHAEL D. CRAPO, a Senator from the State of Idaho, to perform the duties of the Chair.

STROM THURMOND,
President pro tempore.

Mr. CRAPO thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Utah is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, this morning the Senate will resume debate

on the juvenile justice bill. Under a previous order, amendments that qualify under the list may be offered until 12:20 p.m. today. At 12:20 p.m., the Senate will begin debate on amendments numbered 357, 358, 360, and 361 which were previously offered to the bill. Each of the four amendments will have 10 minutes of debate equally divided with stacked votes to begin at 1 p.m. Senators are encouraged to offer their amendments this morning so we can finish this important legislation in a timely manner.

I thank my colleagues for their attention.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, leadership time is reserved.

VIOLENT AND REPEAT JUVENILE ACCOUNTABILITY AND REHABILITATION ACT OF 1999

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senate will now resume consideration of S. 254, which the clerk will report.

The legislative assistant read as follows:

A bill (S. 254) to reduce violent juvenile crime, promote accountability by and rehabilitation of juvenile criminals, punish and deter violent gang crime, and for other purposes.

Pending:

Frist amendment No. 355, to amend the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and the Gun-Free Schools Act of 1994 to authorize schools to apply appropriate discipline measures in cases where students have firearms.

Wellstone amendment No. 356, to improve the juvenile delinquency prevention challenge grant program.

Sessions/Inhofe amendment No. 357, relating to the placement of a disclaimer on materials produced, procured or disseminated as a result of funds made available under this Act.

Wellstone amendment No. 358, to provide for additional mental health and student service providers.

Hatch (for Santorum) amendment No. 360, to encourage States to incarcerate individuals convicted of murder, rape, or child molestation.

Ashcroft amendment No. 361, to provide for school safety and violence prevention and teacher liability protection measures.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Vermont.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to continue for 1 minute, the time not taken from either side.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, also for the advice of our colleagues, the distinguished Senator from Utah and I continued work on the managers' package, which we worked on over the weekend, last night, and we will be prepared to present that fairly soon.

If I could have the attention of the Senator from Utah for just a moment, I suspect what we would probably do at that time, when it is prepared, is to move to set aside other things so we could do that and go forward with it.

I mention this because several Senators had asked about where it was—it is a complex thing—to help make sure we get the drafting all right.

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I think we are just about done with the drafting of it. I know staff on both the minority and the majority side are finishing that up as we speak, so I agree with the Senator. When we get that finally done, we will interrupt everything and set matters aside so we can pass the managers' amendment.

I notice the distinguished Senator from New Jersey is prepared to offer his amendment again. Could I ask the other side, how many further gun amendments are we going to have? I would at least like to know.

Mr. LEAHY. The Senator asks a legitimate question. That is why I asked about the managers' package. Some are holding to see where the managers' package goes, and it will probably depend upon what happens with the amendment of the distinguished senior Senator from New Jersey.

Let me try to get a more specific answer. That does not answer the question of the Senator from Utah. As this debate starts—we are running some traplines now—I will try to get that answer for the Senator as quickly as I can.

Mr. HATCH. The reason I bring that up is we have had enough time on gun amendments, it seems to me. There has been a lot of getting together, and I have helped to lead that. I think it is about time we get on to the rest of this bill, which is much more important than the gun aspect of this bill. There is a huge number of things we do in this bill to try to stop juvenile crime in this country, and especially violent juvenile crime. This bill will help to alleviate that. So I want to finish the bill, and I think we ought to do the very best we can to do that.

Mr. LEAHY. If the Senator will yield, I would note that we had a list of over 90 amendments entered under a consent agreement last Friday. We have pared that back to about a dozen or less. So we are making significant